

## Claims

- (previously presented) 1. Contact jaw, which is to be assigned exchangeably to the contact plate at the free end of an electrode-carrying arm forming a component of an electrode furnace for the exchangeable electrode, which can be brought into abutment so as to make electrical contact with the electrode-carrying arm by means of a clip guided at the electrode-carrying arm, characterized in that the contact jaw, which can be brought into abutment two-dimensionally with a partial region of the electrode, is provided centrally with a passage, which extends to the carrying arm and is continued in the carrying arm.
- (previously presented) 2. The contact jaw of claim 1, characterized by a concave course of the horizontal surfaces of the contact jaw forming the boundary of the passage passing through the contact jaw.
- (currently amended) 3. The contact jaw of claims 1 or 2, characterized in that the passage, passing through the contact jaw, is provided with tapers inclined from the back of the contact jaw to the passage.
- (previously presented) 4. The contacting jaw of claim 3, characterized in that the tapers, inclined towards the inside, start out at a distance from the outer edge of the contact jaw and the remaining regions with outwardly inclined tapers.
- (previously presented) 5. The contact jaw of claim 3, characterized in that the tapers, starting out from the outer edges of the contact jaw, incline to the passage.
- (currently amended) 6. The contact jaw of one of the claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the contact jaw is provided with recesses on both sides at the back, the recesses accommodating springs, the overhangs of which are inserted into corresponding

recesses located in the contact plate forming a component of the electrode-carrying arm, these recesses being filled by the springs.

(previously  
7. presented) | The contact jaw of claim 6, characterized in that the recesses extend in the vertical direction.

(currently  
8. amended) | The contact jaw of claims 6 ~~or 7~~, characterized by springs inserted with a snug fit into the recesses.

(currently  
9. amended) | The contact jaw of one of the claims 1 ~~to 8~~, characterized in that the boreholes for the screw connection of the contact jaw to the carrying arm pass through the contact jaw in lateral overhangs of the contact jaw over the contact surface.